

## Message Text

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61

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SCCT-02 NIC-01

DRC-01 /158 W

----- 096677

R 141125Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2681

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

USUN NEW YORK 631

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

USLO PEKING

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UNCLAS SAIGON 3400

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: GVN NOTE TO PARIS PARTICIPANTS ON CAI LAY MASSACRE

REF : SAIGON 3333

1. SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST: THERE FOLLOWSTEXT OF A GVN NOTE

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DATED MARCH 13 SENT TO THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON VIETNAM. ACTION REQUEST. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE  
REQUESTED TO PASS THE TEXT TO THE GVN REPRESENTATIVES IN THEIR  
HOST COUNTRIES WITH THE INFORMATION THAT IT WILL BE RELEASED TO  
PRESS AT 1000 AM SAIGON TIME MARCH 15. FOR BRASILIA: PLEASE SEND  
EXTRA COPY OF THIS NOTE AS WELL AS OF THOSE FORWARDED IN REFTEL  
FOR THE PERSONAL ATTENTION OF FOREIGN MINISTER VUONG VAN BAC FROM  
LE QUANG GIANG OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. END SUMMARY AND  
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ACTION REQUEST.  
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2. BEGIN TEXT. NO. 577/BNG. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF

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THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PARTIES  
TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM SIGNED AT  
PARIS ON 2 MARCH 1973 AND HAS THE HONOUR TO DRAW THE PARTICULAR  
ATTENTION OF THE PARTIES TO THE FOLLOWING.

3. AT 1455 HOURS ON 9 MARCH 1974, THE COMMUNIST FORCES LOBBED  
AN 82-MM MORTAR SHELL INTO THE CAI LAY COMMUNITY ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL AT COORDINATE XS-230550 IN THE PROVINCE OF DINH TUONG,  
KILLING OUTRIGHT TWENTY THREE SCHOOL CHILDREN AND WOUNDING FORTY  
THREE OTHERS, TOGETHER WITH A WOMAN TEACHER AND TWO CIVILIAN  
ADULTS. SUBSEQUENTLY, NINE OF THE CHILDREN DIED OF THEIR  
WOUNDS, RAISING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS TO THIRTY-TWO.

4. EVERYONE IS ALL TOO FAMILIAR WITH THE LONG LIST OF TERRIBLE  
ATROCITIES PERPETRATED BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE IN SOUTH VIET-NAM  
BUT THIS NEW ACT HAD AS ITS VICTIMS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY CHILDREN  
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BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX AND FOURTEEN.

5. REGARDLESS OF WHATEVER ALLEGATIONS COULD BE MADE BY ITS  
PERPETRATOR, THE LONG-ESTABLISHED PATTERN OF TERRORISM IS FULLY  
EXHIBITED IN THIS CASE AND ITS OUTRAGEOUS SAVAGERY IS SUCH THAT  
IT MAKES ANY HUMAN HEART BLEED. THE MIND REELS AT THE DEPTHS OF  
CYNICISM ATTAINED BY AN IRRESPONSIBLE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHICH  
CAN IN ALMOST THE SAME BREATH DEMAND AN INVITATION TO A CONFERENCE

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND AT ONE  
AND THE SAME COMMIT AN ACT AS BARBARIC AS THIS ONE.

6. MORE THAN ANY OTHER INCIDENT, THE CASE OF THE MASSACRE OF THE  
CHILDREN OF CAI LAY DEMONSTRATES THE CONTINUING INTENT ON THE PART  
OF THE COMMUNIST SIDE TO UNLEASH A REIGN OF TERROR AGAINST THE  
CIVILIAN POPULATION IN SOUTH VIET-NAM, IN FLAGRANT REPUDIATION  
OF THE COMMITMENT BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE TO THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL  
PROVISIONS OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT.

7. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM, IN RAISING ITS MOST  
ENERGETIC PROTEST, DENOUNCES THIS NEW ACT OF WANTON TERROR BY  
THE COMMUNISTS AGAINST THE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
VIET-NAM. IT FIRMLY DEMANDS THAT THIS PATTERN OF BARBARITY, AS  
EXHIBITED BY THE COMMUNIST FORCES IN THE CASE OF THE CHILDREN  
OF CAI LAY, BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BAR OF WORLD PUBLIC OPINION  
AND CONDEMNED IN THE STRONGEST TERMS.

8. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM FURTHER REQUESTS  
THAT THE PARTIES TO THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
VIET-NAM EXERT EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT, EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR  
THROUGH JOINT ACTION, TO INDUCE THE HANOI ADMINISTRATION AND ITS  
FRONT ORGANIZATION IN THE SOUTH TO PUT AN IMMEDIATE END TO THEIR  
POLICY OF AGGRESSION AND ORGANIZED TERROR AGAINST THE PEOPLE OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM. UNLESS THIS REQUEST IS ACTED UPON  
POSITIVELY, IT IS FEARED THAT THE CLIMATE OF HATRED AND  
VICIOUSNESS WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN CREATED BY THE CONTINUING  
COMMUNIST VIOLATIONS OF THE CEASEFIRE WILL EVENTUALLY ERODE THE  
WHOLE PEACE STRUCTURE THAT THE PARIS AGREEMENT ENDEAVOURED TO  
ESTABLISH.

9. THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM  
AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE PARTIES TO THE  
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ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET-NAM, THE ASSURANCES  
OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. SAIGON, 13 MARCH 1974. END TEXT.

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MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY VIOLATION, PEACE TALKS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, COMMUNISTS, GROUND COMBAT OPERATIONS, ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, STUDENTS, MASSACRES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SAIGON03400  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740343/aaaabojm.tel  
**Line Count:** 158  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SAIGON 3333  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAR 2002 by hagers>; APPROVED <04 JUN 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GVN NOTE TO PARIS PARTICIPANTS ON CAI LAY MASSACRE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MOPS, VS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005